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TASKS USING MULTIPLE INTELLIGENT AGENTS HAVING VARIED DEGREES OF DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE," and U.S. Serial No. 09/100,595, filed on June 19, 1998 and entitled "OPTIMIZING THE PERFORMANCE OF COMPUTER TASKS USING INTELLIGENT AGENT WITH MULTIPLE PROGRAM MODULES HAVING VARIED DEGREES OF DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE" (which is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 08/822,993 filed on March 21, 1997 and entitled "APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING THE PERFORMANCE OF COMPUTER TASKS USING INTELLIGENT AGENT WITH MULTIPLE PROGRAM MODULES HAVING VARIED DEGREES OF DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE" (now abandoned)). The disclosures of all of these applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

At page 17, line 28, please delete "Serial No. _____" and substitute therefor --Serial No. 08/822,119--.

At page 18, line 8, please delete "Serial Nos. ____ and ____" and substitute therefor --Serial Nos. 08/826,107 and 08/822,993--.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-53 and 64-103 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims 104-112:

104. (New Claim) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein each of the plurality of attributes has a weighting factor associated therewith.

105. (New Claim) The apparatus of claim 104, wherein the identification module is configured to calculate an accumulated weighting factor for each known party by summing the

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Preliminary Amendment
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